

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Little Snake Field Office  
455 Emerson Street  
Craig, CO 81625

## DOCUMENTATION OF LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE AND NEPA ADEQUACY

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2010-0108-DNA

CASEFILE/ALLOTMENT NUMBER: 0503172 / 04172, 04188

PROJECT NAME: Renewal of the grazing lease on the Lower Middle Creek Allotment #04172 and the Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment #04188.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: see Allotment Maps, Attachment #1a and #1b

**Lower Middle Creek #04172**

T5N R86W parts of Sec. 35  
T4N R86W parts of Sec. 10, 11, 14, 15

1033 acres BLM

**Upper Raspberry Creek #04188**

T3N R85W parts of Sec. 11, 12

322 acres BLM

APPLICANT: Lessee

### A. Describe the Proposed Action

Renew the grazing lease (0503172) authorizing grazing on the Lower Middle Creek Allotment #04172 and the Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment #04188 through February 28, 2020. The lease would be reissued with the same terms and conditions as the expiring lease which are as follows:

0503172

Allotment Name and Number	Livestock Number and Kind		Grazing Period		%PL	AUMs
			Begin	End		
Lower Middle Creek #04172	228	Sheep	06/01	10/31	100	229
Upper Raspberry Creek #04188	72	Sheep	06/01	10/31	100	72

No Special Terms and Conditions.

The above lease would be subject to the Standard and Common Terms and Conditions; see Attachment #2.

### **Administrative Actions**

In January of 2009 advertisement for vacant parcels eligible for consideration of issuance of a grazing lease occurred. Parcel 5 (T4N, R86W, parts of Sec. 10 and 15) which is adjacent to the #04172 Lower Middle Creek Allotment was included in this notice. This allotment was previously part of the Foidel Creek Allotment #04167. Only one application was received for this parcel. The application was from the lessee who holds the grazing preference on this adjacent allotment. The vacant Parcel 5 would be combined into the Lower Middle Creek Allotment #04172 and grazing preference assigned to the applicant. The acreage and AUMs have been adjusted accordingly.

### **B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance**

LUP Name: Little Snake Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: April 26, 1989

Final RMP/EIS, September 1986

Draft RMP/EIS, February 1986

Other Documents:

Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing in Colorado

Date Approved: February 12, 1997

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as Amended (43 USC 1752)

Rangeland Reform Final Environmental Impact Statement, December 1994.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions.

The Proposed Action implements the Resource Management Plan Livestock Grazing Management objective on page 10 of the ROD to improve range conditions through proper utilization of key forage plants and adjust livestock stocking rates. Also, as stated on page 11 of the ROD, the goal of the livestock management program is to improve the rangeland forage resource by managing toward a desired plant community, and states "In the future, allotment categorization, levels of management, and lease modifications could be made if additional information suggests that this is warranted in order to achieve or make significant progress toward achieving the Colorado Standards for Rangeland Health" (43 CFR 4180). The proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5

BLM 1617.3). The proposed action of renewal of the grazing lease is in conformance with the Little Snake RMP/ROD.

**C. Identify applicable NEPA documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

Rangeland Program Summary (RPS), Little Snake Resource Area, November 15, 1990

Standard Terms and Conditions (See Attachment #2).

Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing in Colorado

Date Approved: February 12, 1997

FLPMA, Section 402 as amended (43 USC 1752)

Colorado Public Land Health Standards, Decision Record & Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment, March 1997.

Environmental Assessment CO-016-LS-99-018 Renewal of the ten-year grazing leases for multiple Section 15 leases in Routt County (#04172 Lower Middle Creek and #04188 Upper Raspberry Creek included in list).

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed? Is the current proposed action located at a site specifically analyzed in an existing document?**

Yes. The public lands within the allotments were analyzed in the RMP/EIS and categorized as 'C' allotments.

The Proposed Action received additional site specific analysis in Environmental Assessment CO-016-LS-99-018. This EA analyzed the grazing use that is to be continued under the proposed action. This analysis is applicable to also cover the additional Parcel Five included in the proposed action.

**2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

Yes, the multiple use alternatives analyzed in the valid NEPA documents are still appropriate. The current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values are essentially the same as those in 1999. No new alternatives have been proposed by the public to address current or additional issues or concerns.

**3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances?**

Yes. The proposed action would have no disproportionate impacts on minority populations or low income communities per Executive Order (EO) 12898 and would not adversely impact migratory birds per EO 13186.

Resource conditions on the allotment currently meet objectives and goals. The previous analysis remains valid. No new, threatened or endangered plant or animal species have been identified on the allotment. Data reaffirms that the RMP identified all resource concerns for the allotment.

The Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment provides habitat for the federally threatened Canada lynx. This species was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in March of 2000, after the initial EA (CO-016-LS-99-018) was completed. Informal consultation was conducted with USFWS regarding livestock grazing on the Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment in September of 2000. The continuation of livestock grazing on the allotment was consulted on in December of 2009. A 'May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect' determination was found for both consultations. USFWS concurred with this determination. Biological Assessments and Concurrence Letters are on file at the LSFO.

**4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?**

Yes, the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA documents continue to be appropriate for the proposed action. Impacts to all resources were analyzed.

**5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Does the existing NEPA document analyze site-specific impacts related to the current proposed action?**

Yes. Direct and indirect impacts of the proposed action are within the parameters of those identified in the existing NEPA documents. Impacts regarding the proposed action to authorize livestock grazing on the allotment at the current grazing intensity and period of use are within the scope of the existing analysis. Monitoring data, including an allotment-specific analysis of resource conditions, assure that the allotment is in compliance with the Colorado Public Land Health Standards. No adverse site specific impacts were identified in this analysis (see Attachment #3).

The proposed action would provide for at least the minimum legal requirements for cultural resources management and protection and would generally result in benefits through cultural resource data acquisition resulting from required cultural resource survey work.

Previously identified sites and new sites recorded and evaluated as eligible and/or need data sites during a Class III survey will need to be monitored. Initial recordation of new sites and reevaluation of known sites will establish the current condition of the resource and help in developing a monitoring plan for all of these sites. Some sites will have to be monitored more

often than others. Sites that are found to be impacted by grazing activities will need physical protection or other mitigative measures developed (see Attachment #4).

**6. Can you conclude without additional analysis or information that the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

Yes. The cumulative impacts that would result from the implementation of the proposed action would remain unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA documents. No additional activities have been implemented that would change the impacts resulting from the proposed action.

**7. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Yes. Extensive public outreach through scoping and involvement of the public and other agencies occurred during the development of the RMP/EIS and Environmental Assessment CO-016-LS-99-18.

**E. Interdisciplinary Analysis:** Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet.

Name	Title	Resource	Initials	Date
Emily Spencer	Ecologist	Air Quality, Floodplains Prime/Unique Farmlands, Water Quality – Surface, Wetlands/Riparian Zones	ELS	6/30/10
Robyn Morris	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Concerns	RM	7/6/10
Louise McMinn	Realty Specialist	Environmental Justice	LM	6/29/10
Christina Rhyne	Rangeland Mgmt. Specialist	Hazardous Materials	CR	6/24/10
Christina Rhyne	Rangeland Mgmt. Specialist	Invasive Non-native Species	CR	6/24/10
Hunter Seim	Rangeland Mgmt. Specialist	Sensitive Plants, T&E Plant	JHS	7/2/10
Desa Ausmus	Wildlife Biologist	T&E Animal	DA	7/8/10
Marty O'Mara	Geologist	Water Quality - Ground	EMO	6/29/10
Gina Robison	Outdoor Recreation Planner	WSA, W&S Rivers	GMR	6/30/10

<b>Standards</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Date</b>
Desa Ausmus	Wildlife Biologist	Animal Communities	DA	7/8/10
Desa Ausmus	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status, T&E Animal	DA	7/8/10
Christina Rhyme	Rangeland Mgmt. Specialist	Plant Communities	CR	6/24/10
Hunter Seim	Rangeland Mgmt. Specialist	Special Status, T&E Plant	JHS	7/2/10
Emily Spencer	Ecologist	Riparian Systems	ELS	6/30/10
Emily Spencer	Ecologist	Water Quality	ELS	6/30/10
Emily Spencer	Ecologist	Upland Soils	ELS	6/30/10

### **Land Health Assessment**

This action has been reviewed for conformance with the BLM's Public Land Health Standards adopted February 12, 1997. This action will not adversely affect achievement of the Public Land Health Standards.

Standards Assessment was conducted on the #04172 Lower Middle Creek Allotment and the #04188 Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment on September 9, 2009 by an interdisciplinary team consisting of a wildlife biologist, two rangeland management specialists and two rangeland technicians.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

Signature of Lead Specialist\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of NEPA Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Authorizing Official\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Note: The signed Conclusion on this document is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision.



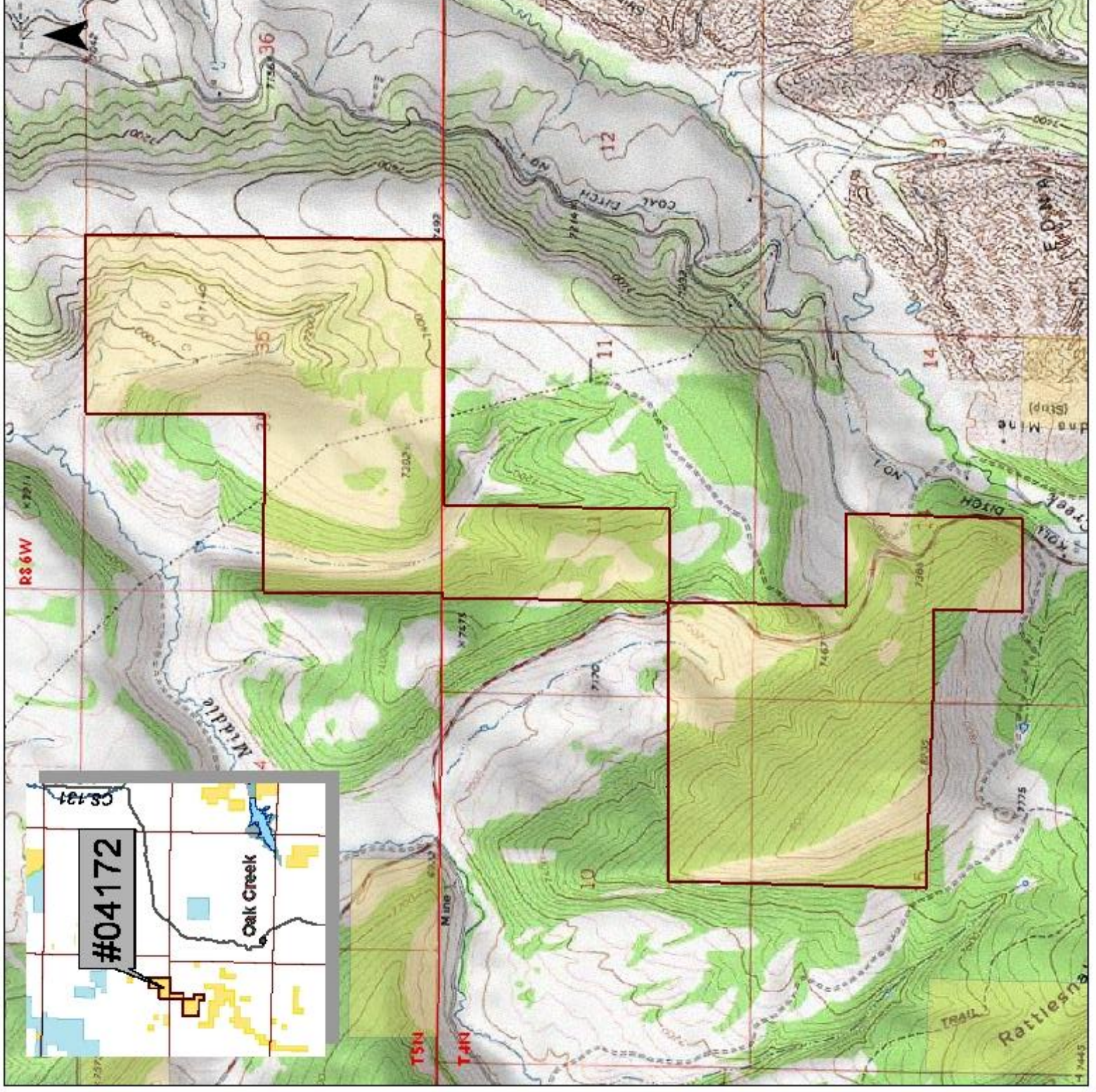
# **Allotment #04172** **Lower Middle Creek**



BLM 1033 acres



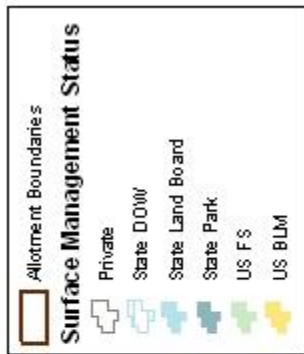
  
No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregation use with other data. All boundaries 0/23/10 CR are an approximate representation.



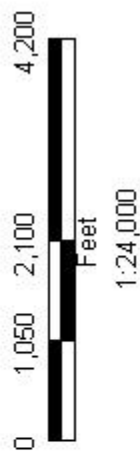


# Allotment #04188 Upper Raspberry Creek

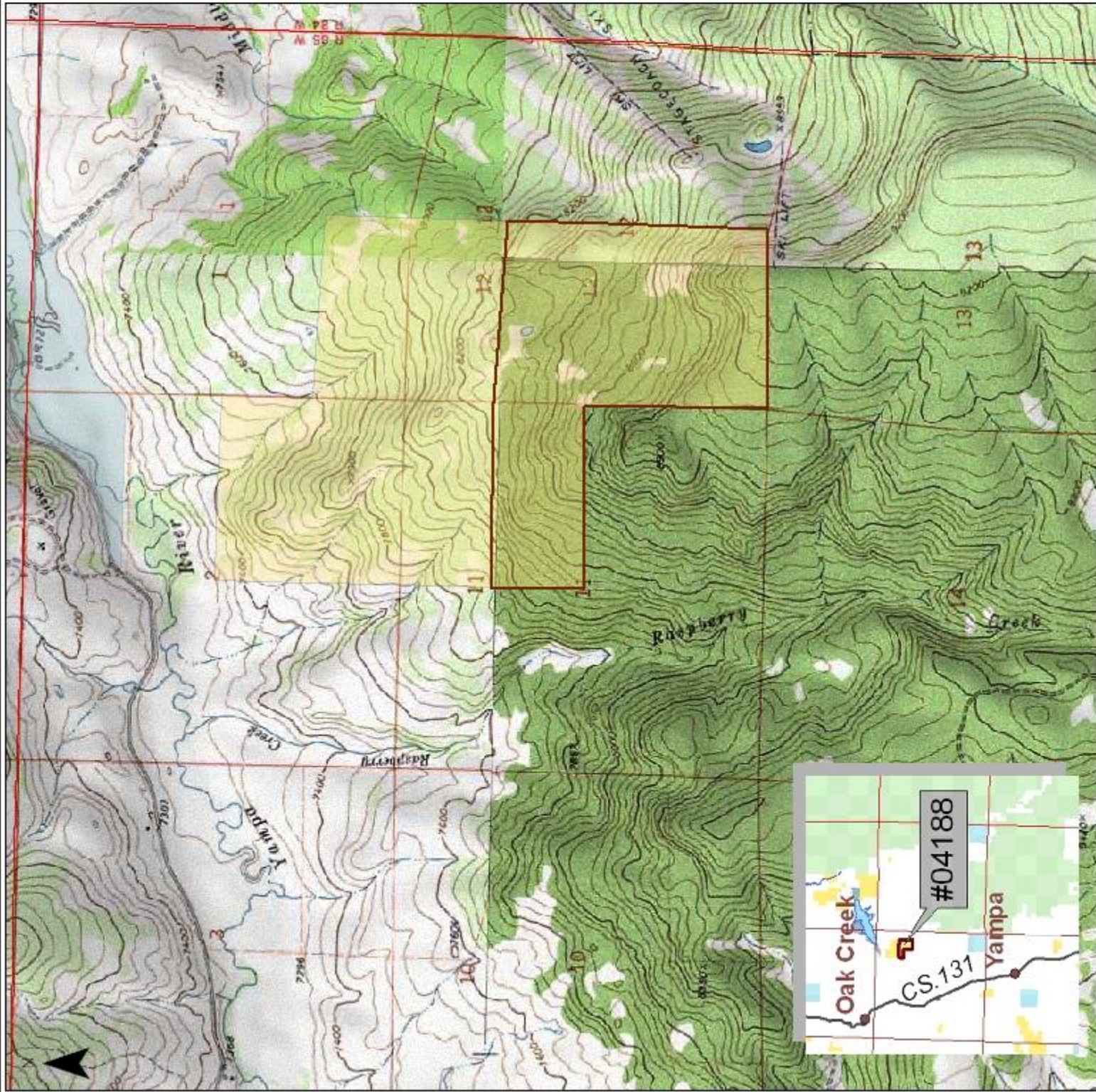
T3N R85W



BLM 322 acres



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregation use with other data. All boundaries 02/3/10 CR are an approximate representation.





**ATTACHMENT #2**  
**DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2010-0108 DNA**  
**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Standard Terms and Conditions**

- 1) Grazing permit or lease terms and conditions and the fees charged for grazing use are established in accordance with the provisions of the grazing regulations now or hereafter approved by the Secretary of the Interior.
- 2) They are subject to cancellation, in whole or in part, at any time because of:
  - a. Noncompliance by the permittee/lessee with rules and regulations;
  - b. Loss of control by the permittee/lessee of all or a part of the property upon which it is based;
  - c. A transfer of grazing preference by the permittee/lessee to another party;
  - d. A decrease in the lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management within the allotment(s) described;
  - e. Repeated willful unauthorized grazing use;
  - f. Loss of qualifications to hold a permit or lease.
- 3) They are subject to the terms and conditions of allotment management plans if such plans have been prepared. Allotment management plans **MUST** be incorporated in permits and leases when completed.
- 4) Those holding permits or leases **MUST** own or control and be responsible for the management of livestock authorized to graze.
- 5) The authorized officer may require counting and/or additional or special marking or tagging of the livestock authorized to graze.
- 6) The permittee's/lessee's grazing case file is available for public inspection as required by the Freedom of Information Act.
- 7) Grazing permits or leases are subject to the nondiscrimination clauses set forth in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1964, as amended. A copy of this order may be obtained from the authorized officer.
- 8) Livestock grazing use that is different from that authorized by a permit or lease **MUST** be applied for prior to the grazing period and **MUST** be filed with and approved by the authorized officer before grazing use can be made.
- 9) Billing notices are issued which specify fees due. Billing notices, when paid, become a part of the grazing permit or lease. Grazing use cannot be authorized during any period of delinquency in the payment of amounts due, including settlement for unauthorized use.

- 10) Grazing fee payments are due on the date specified on the billing notice and MUST be paid in full within 15 days of the due date, except as otherwise provided in the grazing permit or lease. If payment is not made within that time frame, a late fee (the greater of \$25 or 10 percent of the amount owed but not more than \$250) will be assessed.
- 11) No member of, or Delegate to, Congress or Resident Commissioner, after his/her election of appointment, or either before or after he/she has qualified, and during his/her continuance in office, and no officer, agent, or employee of the Department of Interior, other than members of Advisory committees appointed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 1) and Sections 309 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) shall be admitted to any share or part in a permit or lease, or derive any benefit to arise therefrom; and the provision of Section 3741 Revised Statute (41 U.S.C. 22), 18 U.S.C. Sections 431-433, and 43 CFR Part 7, enter into and form a part of a grazing permit or lease, so far as the same may be applicable.

### **Common Terms and Conditions**

- A) Grazing use will not be authorized in excess of the amount of specified grazing use (AUM number) for each allotment. Numbers of livestock annually authorized in the allotment(s) may be more or less than the number listed on the permit/lease within the grazing use periods as long as the amount of specified grazing use is not exceeded.
- B) Unless there is a specific term and condition addressing utilization, the intensity of grazing use will insure that no more than 50% of the key grass species and 40% of the key browse species current years growth, by weight, is utilized at the end of the grazing season for winter allotments and the end of the growing season for allotments used during the growing season. Application of this term needs to recognize recurring livestock management that includes opportunity for regrowth, opportunity for spring growth prior to grazing, or growing season deferment.
- C) Failure to maintain range improvements to BLM standards in accordance with signed cooperative agreements and/or range improvement permits may result in the suspension of the annual grazing authorization, cancellation of the cooperative agreement or range improvement permit, and/or the eventual cancellation of this permit/lease.
- D) Storing or feeding supplemental forage on public lands other than salt or minerals must have prior approval. Forage to be fed or stored on public lands must be certified noxious weed-free. Salt and/or other mineral supplements shall be placed at least one-quarter mile from water sources or in such a manner as to promote even livestock distribution in the allotment or pasture.
- E) Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder of this authorization must notify the authorized officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of

human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the allotment operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are encountered or uncovered during any allotment activities or grazing activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate vicinity and immediately contact the authorized officer. Within five working days the authorized officer will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the identified area can be used for grazing activities again.

If paleontological materials (fossils) are uncovered during allotment activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities that might further disturb such materials and contact the authorized officer. The operator and the authorized officer will consult and determine the best options for avoiding or mitigating paleontological site damage.

- F) No hazardous materials/hazardous or solid waste/trash shall be disposed of on public lands. If a release does occur, it shall immediately be reported to this office at (970) 826-5000.
- G) The permittee/lessee shall provide reasonable administrative access across private and leased lands to the BLM and its agents for the orderly management and protection of public lands.
- H) Application of a chemical or release of pathogens or insects on public lands must be approved by the authorized officer.
- I) The terms and conditions of this lease may be modified if additional information indicates that revision is necessary to conform with 43 CFR 4180.



**ATTACHMENT #3**  
**DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2010-0108-DNA**  
**Standards and Assessments\***

**#04172 Lower Middle Creek Allotment**

**STANDARD 1. Upland soils exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, climate, land form, and geologic processes. Adequate soil infiltration and permeability allows for the accumulation of soil moisture necessary for optimal plant growth and vigor, and minimizes surface runoff.**

The allotment is currently meeting this standard. Given the good condition of soils and vegetation within the allotment, it is expected that the proposed action would continue to maintain sufficient plant cover to both protect the soil surface from wind and water erosion and allow the plant community to continue to produce litter in sufficient amounts to maintain litter and sustain appropriate water permeability.

**STANDARD 2. Riparian systems associated with both running and standing water functions properly and has the ability to recover from major disturbances such as fire, severe grazing, or 100-year floods. Riparian vegetation captures sediment and provides forage, habitat, and biodiversity. Water quality is improved or maintained. Stable soils store and release water slowly.**

There are no riparian or wetland resources identified within the allotment. This standard does not apply.

**STANDARD 3. Healthy, productive plant and animal communities of native and other desirable species are maintained at viable population levels commensurate with the species and habitat potential. Plants and animals at both the community and population levels are productive, resilient, diverse, vigorous, and able to reproduce and sustain natural fluctuations and ecological processes.**

The plant community within the allotment is currently meeting this standard. Plant species diversity is high and the composition is appropriate for the site. The density and production of key species is adequate to provide resilience from human activities. The sagebrush community is in a late seral stage and is mature and large. Some dense sagebrush areas are present. Hound's tongue was found within the allotment but was at an acceptable level. This standard would continue to be met, for plants, under the proposed action.

The Lower Middle Creek Allotment provides habitat for a variety of wildlife species. Elk and mule deer utilize this area year round. The allotment is in good condition, providing suitable habitat for terrestrial wildlife species. The proposed action would not preclude this standard from being met.

**STANDARD 4. Special status, threatened, and endangered species (federal and state), and other plants and animals officially designated by BLM, and their habitats are maintained or enhanced by sustaining healthy native plant and animal communities.**

There are no federally listed threatened or endangered or BLM sensitive plant species present on this allotment. For plants, this standard does not apply.

The Lower Middle Creek Allotment provides habitat for Brewer's sparrow and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, both BLM sensitive species. Sagebrush stands on the allotment are healthy with an appropriate understory of grasses and forbs. Tall, dense areas of sagebrush on the allotment provide good nesting habitat for Brewer's sparrow. This standard is currently being met and would continue to be met under the proposed action.

**STANDARD 5. The water quality of all water bodies, including ground water where applicable, located on or influenced by BLM lands will achieve or exceed the Water Quality Standards established by the State of Colorado. Water Quality Standards for surface and ground waters include the designated beneficial uses, numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and anti-degradation requirement set forth under State law as found in 5 CCR 1002-8, as required by Section 303 of the Clean Water Act.**

Surface waters influenced by the allotment (Trout Creek) are currently supporting classified uses and there are no water quality impairments or suspected water quality issues. Permitting livestock grazing as proposed is consistent with land uses throughout the watershed and would not result in changes to water quality. The proposed action would meet the public land health standard for water quality.

**#04188 Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment**

**STANDARD 1. Upland soils exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, climate, land form, and geologic processes. Adequate soil infiltration and permeability allows for the accumulation of soil moisture necessary for optimal plant growth and vigor, and minimizes surface runoff.**

The allotment is currently meeting this standard. Given the good condition of soils and vegetation within the allotment, it is expected that the proposed action would continue to maintain sufficient plant cover to both protect the soil surface from wind and water erosion and allow the plant community to continue to produce litter in sufficient amounts to maintain litter and sustain appropriate water permeability.

**STANDARD 2. Riparian systems associated with both running and standing water functions properly and has the ability to recover from major disturbances such as fire, severe grazing, or 100-year floods. Riparian vegetation captures sediment and provides forage, habitat, and biodiversity. Water quality is improved or maintained. Stable soils store and release water slowly.**

There are no riparian or wetland resources identified within the allotment. This standard does not apply.

**STANDARD 3. Healthy, productive plant and animal communities of native and other desirable species are maintained at viable population levels commensurate with the species and habitat potential. Plants and animals at both the community and population levels are productive, resilient, diverse, vigorous, and able to reproduce and sustain natural fluctuations and ecological processes.**

For the plant community this standard is currently being met and would continue to be met under the proposed action. The allotment is primarily a very heavily wooded decadent area. The understory is shaded and contains a large amount of litter. The vegetation is an overgrown stand of coniferous trees with some aspen. A wide diversity of forbs and shrubs are persisting in open spots. Natural potential of the plant community is not being achieved without the fire cycle. For a climax community, the species and composition are appropriate for the site and are providing resilience from human activities.

The Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment provides habitat for a variety of wildlife species. Several woodland animals, such as mountain chickadee, blue grouse, pine marten and squirrels can be found in lodgepole pine forests. Elk and mule deer utilize this area primarily in the summer months. The forest is in a climax stage, and provides suitable habitat for wildlife that utilize older seral stage forests. The allotment is meeting this standard, with some concerns over the amount of beetle kill in the area. The proposed action would not preclude this standard from being met.

**STANDARD 4. Special status, threatened, and endangered species (federal and state), and other plants and animals officially designated by BLM, and their habitats are maintained or enhanced by sustaining healthy native plant and animal communities.**

There are no federally listed threatened or endangered or BLM sensitive plant species present on this allotment. For plants, this standard does not apply.

The Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment provides habitat for Canada lynx, a federally threatened species. Habitat within the allotment is very marginal for lynx as the forest is comprised of old, dense stands of lodgepole pine with a closed canopy. The allotment met the standard for plant communities for an older seral stage forest. The proposed action would not preclude this standard from being met.



**STANDARD 5. The water quality of all water bodies, including ground water where applicable, located on or influenced by BLM lands will achieve or exceed the Water Quality Standards established by the State of Colorado. Water Quality Standards for surface and ground waters include the designated beneficial uses, numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and anti-degradation requirement set forth under State law as found in 5 CCR 1002-8, as required by Section 303 of the Clean Water Act.**

Surface waters influenced by the allotment (Yampa River) are currently supporting classified uses and there are no water quality impairments or suspected water quality issues. Permitting livestock grazing as proposed is consistent with land uses throughout the watershed and would not result in changes to water quality. The proposed action would meet the public land health standard for water quality.

\* Standards Assessment was conducted on the #04172 Lower Middle Creek Allotment and the #04188 Upper Raspberry Creek Allotment on September 9, 2009 by an interdisciplinary team consisting of a wildlife biologist, two rangeland management specialists and two rangeland technicians.

**ATTACHMENT #4**  
**DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2010-0108 DNA**  
**Cultural Resources and Native American Concerns**  
**Heritage Rpt. #10.46.2010**

**Affected Environment**

Grazing authorization renewals are undertakings under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During Section 106 review, a cultural resource assessment was completed for allotment #04172 and #04188 on July 2, 2010 by Robyn Watkins Morris, Little Snake Field Office Archaeologist. The assessment followed the procedures and guidance outlined in the 1980 National Programmatic Agreement Regarding the Livestock Grazing and Range Improvement Program, IM-WO-99-039, IM-CO-99-007, IM-CO-99-019, and IM-CO-01-026. The results of the assessment are summarized in the table below. Copies of the cultural resource assessments are in the field office archaeology files.

Data developed here was taken from the cultural program project report files, site report files, and base maps kept at the Little Snake Field Office as well as from General Land Office (GLO) maps, BLM land patent records, An Overview of Prehistoric Cultural Resources Little Snake Resource Area, Northwestern Colorado, Bureau of Land Management Colorado, Cultural Resources Series, Number 20, and An Isolated Empire, A History of Northwestern Colorado, Bureau of Land Management Colorado, Cultural Resource Series, Number 2 and Appendix 21 of the Little Snake Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Draft February 1986, Bureau of Land Management, Craig, Colorado District, Little Snake Resource Area.

The table below is based on the allotment specific analysis developed for the allotments in this DNA. The table shows known cultural resources, eligible and need data, and those that are anticipated to be in each allotment.

Allotment Number	Acres Surveyed at a Class III Level	Acres NOT Surveyed at a Class III Level	Percent of Allotment Inventoried at a Class III Level	Eligible or Need Data Sites- Known in Allotment	Estimated Sites for the Allotment *(total number)	Estimated Eligible or Need Data Sites in the Allotment (number)
04172	15	1033	1.4%	None	27	8
04188	0	322	0%	None	9	6

(Note \*Estimates of site densities are based on known inventory data. Estimates should be accepted as minimum figures which may be revised upwards based on future inventory findings.)

One Class III cultural resource inventory has been previously conducted within Allotment #04172 resulting in the complete coverage inventory of 15 acres and the recording of one prehistoric open camp. There are two other reports of the area related to coal leasing, but they are not Class III cultural resource inventories. The GLO plats show a historic road in T4N R86W section 14 that states it's the Trout Creek road.

No Class III cultural resource inventories have been conducted within Allotment #04188. No GLO plats are available at the time of this review.

Based on available data, a low potential for historic properties occurs in both allotments due to steepness of the slopes. Subsequent cultural resource inventory will be conducted in areas where livestock concentrate. Subsequent field inventory is to be completed within ten year period of the permit.

If historic properties are located during the subsequent field inventory, and BLM determines that grazing activities will adversely impact the properties, mitigation will be identified and implemented in consultation with the Colorado SHPO.

### **Environmental Consequences**

The direct impacts that occur where livestock concentrate, during normal livestock grazing activity, include trampling, chiseling, and churning of site soils, cultural features, and cultural artifacts, artifact breakage, and impacts from standing, leaning, and rubbing against historic structures, above-ground cultural features, and rock art. Indirect impacts include soil erosion, gullyng, and increased potential for unlawful collection and vandalism. Continued livestock use in these concentration areas may cause substantial ground disturbance and cause irreversible adverse effects to historic properties.

Standard Stipulations for cultural resources are included in Standard and Common Terms and Conditions (Attachment #2).

Due to the steepness of the majority of the two allotments, historic properties are not expected. The area, however, appears to have minimal water resources. If water is trucked in or ponds have been developed, these actions would potentially impact historic properties. Saltblock placement, which creates a concentration area, along roads or anywhere in the allotment would potentially impact historic properties if they are in proximity of the placement.

Name of Specialist and date: Robyn Watkins Morris, 7/6/10